(c) During electioneering in J&K a total of 62 elections related incidents of violence took place in which 16 civilians were killed and 49 injured. All possible security arrangements were made for the smooth conduct of elections and protection of candidates etc.

Security to Christian Places of workship in Delhi

854. SHRI ABANI ROY:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have totally failed to provide adequate safety and security to the Christian Places of workship in the Capital;

(b) if so, whether a mob Bibles and attacked a prayer meeting of Christians at Khyala village in West Delhi on 13th November, 1999;

(c) if so, the details of persons nabbed by the Police involved in this incidents; and

(d) the steps taken by the Central Government to provide safety and security to Christian places of prayer throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, there was an isolated incident in which the local police registered the case on the same day, and also arrested two accused persons.

856. 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Constitution of India. The registration, investigation and detection of crime as well as the prevention of crime are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. Nonetheless, the Central Government have taken various steps to provide safety and security to minorities and their institutions which include, constitution of a Special Force called Rapid Action Force for assisting State Governments in controlling communal situations; providing assistance to State Governments for improvement of their policing infrastructure; sharing of intelligence with them; and enjoining upon the State Governments the need of taking action against persons spreading ill-will, hatred and disharmony among members of different communities.

Besides above, after the recent incidents of alleged attacks on minorities, the Chief Secretaries of the concerned States have been advised to issue suitable instructions to the District law enforcing authorities to respond immediately to the complaints of atrocities/ harassment of minorities and initiate prompt and effective action to identify and punish the guilty persons.

It is also the endeavour of the Government to deal with all acts of violence against the minority communities, whenever and in whatever form they occure, with firmness and to award exemplary punishment to the perpetrators.

Illegal Drugs trade by peddlars

855. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the thriving illegal drugs trade being carried out by the peddlars in the busy markets of the city;

(b) if so, whether the city markets where drugs trade is being clandestinely carried out, have been identified besided the racket involved in such trade;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what precise measured have been taken by Government to check it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) It is presumed that the Hon'ble Member has Delhi city in mind. There have been some significent seizuer in Delhi during the current year, on 7.6.99 14.5 Kgs of heroin, 1.10 ,Kgs. Of, opium and 175 gms of poppy granules were seized from a farm iibuse located in Nangloi in Delhi which also resulted in the arrest of a notorious underworld operator of Mumbai and his asociates which included five Srilankans. This resulted in busting of a narcotics trafficking racket between Delhi and Sri Lanka. On 29.11.99, Enforcement officials also busted an illicit heroin manufacturing unit at Azad Market area of Delhi along with arrest of two persons. In the course of follow-up investigation of seizure of 18.830 Kgs. Of heroin and arrest of one